

The Times' Daily Short Story.

A SOFT JOB

[Original.]
Two "pals" were sitting over their grog in a cheap gin shop.
"How 'y' tried anythin' lately, Evans?" asked one.
"Well, yes. I tried so'thin' last week."
"Make a haul?"
"Well, I'll give 'y' the yarn, and 'y' can make up yer own mind as to that. I was readin' in the papers about the swells that was livin' in the thousand acre shootin' places on Long Island, and I says to meself, says I, 'Evans, me boy, if 'y' kdn git in with the servants o' ows o' them country places 'y' might do a fine stroke o' business.' So I fixes meself up in store clothes, puts some bills in me pockets fur treatin', to go with the blarney, and takes the train to —. One mornin' I goes to the big iron gate o' a fine place and keeps me eyes open till I sees the porter leavin' the lodge with some tools over his shoulder. Then I walks in as though I belonged to the place. It wasn't long before I sees a young woman come tearin' along on a mattle-some cob, and it was plain she couldn't manage 'im. When she kem up, I sees that she was frightened, and I jumps for the nag's head and grabs 'im. She had on a black dress, with a white collar. The black dress and collar looked mighty like a servant.
"Yer horse is mighty springy," I says.
"Much obliged for stoppin' 'im," she says. "Ridin' among the trees is dangerous. I might have had me head taken off by a low branch."
"Right 'y' are," says I. "Yer a fine horsewoman. I don't wonder yer mistress has 'y' break in her cobs."
"She looked at me cur'us like and says:
"What 're 'y' doin' in here?"
"I jest walked in to see the place," says I. "And a fine one it is."
"Do 'y' know any o' the servants?"
"No, I don't, but I'm liken to make their acquaintance."
"What for?" she asked, giv'n me a sly look.
"I'm a sociable man and likes to spend me money in good company."
"Y' mean 'y're in the perfession and wants to git a chance to crack the crib?"
"Y' do me great injustice," I per-tested, reproachful like.
"S'posin' I gives 'y' a chance, what is there in it for me?"
"Y' could ha' knocked me down with a feather. I'd come all the way to meet suthin' like this, expectin' to hev to work me way stealthy, and here it was throwed right in me face."
"I've money in me pocket," I told her. "I'll pay down \$50 and if 'y' 'll meet me in the city after the job 'y' 'll give 'y' a share o' the profit."
"I'll not trust 'y' for the profit," she says. "Make it a hundred and I'll put

PEARY'S ARCTIC TRIP

Explorer's Plans For Finding the North Pole.

STEAM TO BE CHIEF MOTIVE POWER

Powerful Engines Are to Be Placed in Stanch Hull of a Wooden Vessel to Withstand the Ice—Fuel Will Be Taken in a Tender—Negro Body-Servant to Accompany Him on Last Dash.

The expedition in quest of the north pole which Lieutenant Peary is to conduct next year will be unlike any of its predecessors, says a Washington special to the New York World. Instead of depending upon sails as the chief part of the motive power the explorer will depend almost entirely upon steam. Sails, if used, will be the auxiliary power.

Acting Secretary Darling, who is one of the heartiest supporters of the explorer, has said the other afternoon that the lieutenant's idea was to use a stanch wooden hulled craft of not over 400 or 500 tons, but to have in that hull as powerful machinery as he could find. The vessel will be named after Mr. Darling.

Peary's plan is to make his base on Grant Land and winter at Cape Columbia or some point farther west. From that point he will have his Eskimos transport his party across the hummocky ice that exists between the eighty-third and eighty-sixth degrees of latitude. The men who are to make the dash are not to engage in any of the toil of getting across the ice hummocks, but are to preserve their energies for the last stage of the journey, which will be a little more than 300 miles long. The Eskimos are expected to transport this party about 100 miles.
"I have not determined the number of men who will accompany me in the run for the pole," said Lieutenant Peary. "It will not, however, consist of much more than twenty-five men, probably not more than twenty. It will de-

pend upon the number of Eskimos I shall be able to get to go with me to the base that is to be established on Grant Land.

"The only man I know positively will be in the last dash will be Matthew Hansen, the colored man who has been with me on former expeditions. I would not think of going without him. He is now in New York serving as a valet, but he will go with me whenever I am ready. I have three Eskimos in mind who will go with me.

"Dogs only will be used in dragging the sleds across the ice between Grant Land and the pole. They are better than men in every respect. They travel faster and are more faithful workers. They require less food, and in case of dire necessity they can be used as food for the members of the party.

"I feel more confident of success than before any of the other trips I have undertaken."

It is altogether probable the explorer will buy an ocean going tug that has a wooden hull in a good state of preservation. This he will have braced so the maximum of resistance to ice pressure will be produced. Into this hull powerful engines will be placed.

A supply of fuel will have to be taken north in a tender and perhaps transported to Grant Land by the most laborious methods, so as to enable the tug to return, if she gets that far north, with the least possible delay after the dash to the pole has been made.

The money for the enterprise has not been raised, but President Roosevelt and Acting Secretary Darling are such good friends of the project that their influence will be put back of the efforts the explorer intends making to procure the necessary funds.

Brave Alfonso.

King Alfonso had a little adventure, rather unusual with sovereigns, the other day. His majesty was walking in the Prado when a bullock broke from a herd that was being driven and, tearing away at full gallop, showed every disposition to use its horns among the pedestrians and equestrians. There was a regular stampede, but the king showed his spirit and, drawing a revolver, brought the beast down with two or three swiftly delivered shots.

NEW RULE ON HEALING

Changes in Revised Manual of Christian Science.

LIMIT ON NUMBER OF PUPILS SET

Hereafter Teachers Are to Be Restricted to Thirty Students a Year. Extraordinary Care Exercised in the Revision of the Bylaws.

The revised edition of the Christian Science manual will cause consternation among a certain class of the followers of the faith and a revolution in much of the general conduct of the church, says a Boston special to the Chicago Record-Herald.

This manual, which is frequently revised and reprinted, contains the rules, regulations and bylaws which govern the denomination. It is published by and for the mother church in Boston, but all Christian Science churches in the world are governed by its laws, as is the First church in Boston. The book is the joint product of Mrs. Eddy and the directors of the mother church, though in reality Mrs. Eddy is the author of most of the contents.

The present revision much alters the attitude of the church in the matter of instruction and teaching, and it is in this respect, that a considerable number of people will be seriously affected. The revised manual will also direct particular attention to the work of bending the energies of the church into the field of healing, and to accomplish this an endeavor will be made to build up an entirely new and large body of "practicing" Christian Scientists, who will in time supplant the older ones.

The truth of the matter seems to be that, aside from Mrs. Eddy's well known wish to found her church on an enduring rock, there has arisen of late years a body of Christian Scientists who by their zeal and influence have attracted to themselves a considerable personal influence. There are teachers in Chicago, for instance, whose reputation is so large that their incomes are \$4,000 to \$5,000 a year. This is not pleasing to the heads of the church, for the tendency to make of Christian Science a money making business is wholly contrary to the spirit of the faith and most offensive to Mrs. Eddy.

Mrs. Eddy is determined to make "healing" the corner stone of Christian Science, and to do this the more certainly and to curb those who have strayed into the paths of pure money making is the purpose of this revised manual.

Edward A. Kimball, one of the leaders of the denomination, said:

"You see, the people who join the Christian Science denomination are mostly people with troubles of some kind. They come to us feeling that they can get rid of their troubles, and when they do get rid of them they naturally tell others who are in trouble, and so the church spreads. Mrs. Eddy is right in this directing the energies of the church."

Hereafter teachers of Christian Science may instruct not more than thirty pupils in any one year. Heretofore some teachers have sent out 100 or more pupils a year. The normal course of the college in Boston will be suspended for three years, and the entire efforts of the board of education will be given to primary education. Thus the board of education in Boston will come into direct competition with individual teachers everywhere and naturally will get the bulk of the new pupils. This is part of the purpose of the new bylaws. The board of education will have personal knowledge of the new generation of teachers, and certificates may be withheld from such as the board does not wish to send out.

Extraordinary care has been exercised in this revision of the bylaws. Some idea of this may be gained when it is known that after the entire edition, a very large one, had been printed, bound and issued, a few days ago, it was suddenly recalled, and the few copies of it which had been sent out were traced and recovered. The exact reason for recalling the work is not known, except that one of the church officials says it was to correct an error in some figures. The whole edition will be ripped up, new pages inserted, rebound and then issued.

The important fact in the revision is that the attitude of Mrs. Eddy and the board of education toward the manner of teaching Christian Science has been radically changed, and the change will stand, as will her determination to make "healing" the corner stone of her church.

This question of education has been an absorbing one with Mrs. Eddy ever since she started the metaphysical college in Boston twenty years ago. It remained open ten years and turned out 5,000 graduates. Then there was a suspension of the work for five years, after which it was resumed under new form, a board of education. In five years the board has sent out perhaps 200 qualified teachers from the normal course, while the old graduates of Mrs. Eddy's college have built up in some cases schools and institutes which completely overshadow the work of the board and have proved immensely profitable to them. Mr. Kimball said there are 500 of these private teachers, and they earn an average of \$800 a year, though some of them have incomes as high as \$5,000.

Under the new laws the board of education, which is in effect the mother church, will attract to itself most of the new primary work and eventually cause a more even distribution of the work of teaching, for one teacher will not be permitted to invade the field of another.

THE BULGARIAN ARMY.

Entire Fighting Strength Is Nearly 300,000 Men.

MILITARY SERVICE OBLIGATORY.

Even Foreigners Who Have Resided in Bulgaria For Three Years Are Compelled to Serve—The Forces Are Armed With Rifles and Field Guns of Modern Make.

The Bulgarian army may be regarded as one of the best organized and most efficient among those of the second rate powers, and its rank and file, at least, is considered by experts to be superior to that of any other Balkan state, says the Chicago Tribune. The Bulgarian army is, however, of comparatively recent origin, in that it sprang from the battalions of Bulgarian volunteers which were organized in 1877 by the Russian staff and co-operated with the Russian army during the campaign of 1877-78. Military service is obligatory in Bulgaria and even extends to all foreigners who have been resident in the country for a period of three years.

The Bulgarian forces consist of the active or field army, divided into the active army and the active army reserve, the reserve army and the militia, comprising two bans. In time of peace the active army, but not its reserve, is on a permanent footing, and the reserve army has permanent cadres, while the two bans of the militia have neither a permanent footing nor cadres; for no actual service or training of the men of the two bans takes place except in time of war. The first ban of the militia may be used exceptionally to strengthen the field and reserve armies, but the second ban can only be employed for home defense.

The composition of the field army is as follows: The infantry, "pekhota," number twenty-four regiments, each of which has a permanent establishment of two battalions and a small transport squad and a war establishment of four battalions and one transport company. Each battalion consists of four companies, whose war strength is three officers and 265 noncommissioned officers and men. They are armed with the 315 inch Mannlicher magazine rifle and a short bayonet of the 1895 pattern. This rifle gives an initial velocity of 2,043 feet per second and is sighted up to 2,133 yards, while the magazine holds five cartridges, which are changed by means of a clip.

The cavalry, which was reorganized in 1901, now comprises the prince's bodyguard of one squadron; four regiments, each of four squadrons, and six regiments, each of two squadrons. The life guard squadron is always kept at war strength, even with regard to horses, and numbers fourteen officers and 300 noncommissioned officers and men. The peace footing of the remaining squadrons consists of five officers, 137 noncommissioned officers and men and 100 horses, which in time of war is increased to 163 noncommissioned officers and men and 164 horses. The cavalry is armed with Mannlicher carbines of the 1895 pattern and sword.

The artillery consists of six regiments of nine batteries each, giving a total of 54 field guns, nine six gun mountain batteries, three battalions of garrison artillery of five companies each and five howitzer batteries. The war strength of a field battery is given as five officers, 182 noncommissioned officers and men and 159 horses, but details are lacking with regard to the war strength of the mountain and howitzer batteries and garrison artillery companies.

The field gun is a fifteen pounder breech loading Krupp gun of 3.42 inch caliber, dating from 1875, with a muzzle velocity of 1,592 feet per second and a maximum range of 7,000 yards. Within the last two years, however, the government has placed orders abroad for up to date equipment, its intention being to rearm the field and mountain batteries with 2.95 quick firing Creusot-Canet guns, throwing respectively a fourteen and a seven pound projectile, and to give the new howitzer batteries 4.7 inch breech loading Krupp ordnance of the 1894 pattern. At present the mountain batteries have a seven pounder breech loading Krupp gun. The recent orders also include twenty-four 4.7 inch quick firing Canet guns, mounted on mobile travelling carriages, and twenty-four 6.9 inch Canet field mortars. It is understood that several batteries of the new quick firing field and mountain equipment have already been delivered.

The reserve army comprises twelve reserve regiments of infantry of five companies each, the fifth company being for frontier duty, and four companies which are mere cadres and six reserve divisions of field artillery, providing eighteen batteries. In time of peace the cadres for the reserve army muster only 6,000 men, who are officered mainly by ex-noncommissioned officers of the field army. The militia bans, which have no cadres in peace time, mobilize only in infantry battalions.

On mobilization the field army will consist of six infantry and one cavalry divisions. Each infantry division will comprise two brigades, each of twelve battalions—that is, eight of the active and four of the reserve army. The mobilization of the first line will be able to be completed in ten days and will place 144 battalions, each 1,000 strong, in the field.

Finally, should Bulgaria be threatened with invasion, it is estimated that the mobilization of the reserve army and the two militia bans would give the principality a grand armed strength of 5,431 officers, 290,677 noncommissioned officers and men, 41,776 horses and 489 guns.

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CADETS MAY SMOKE PIPES.

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The cadets of the United States Military academy are no longer prohibited from smoking, says the New York Times. As the parade the other evening was about to end and just as the adjutant was preparing to read the "skin list" the officer in charge handed him an order to read. It said that pipes and tobacco would be procurable in future at the cadet store and that smoking would be allowed in quarters during recreation hours as well as in the outdoor court included by the quadrangular barracks. Superintendent Mills made the change after obtaining the consent of Secretary of War Root several weeks ago. The "supe," as the

cadets call Colonel Mills, has always been popular with the corps, but now all hands are singing his praises.

While it has been noticed that the sudden freedom has caused an undue amount of smoking at first, the army officers at the post are confident the final result will be good. Colonel Mills hopes to lessen cigarette smoking by allowing pipes, for with the latter easy to get and the former only to be obtained with great difficulty it is argued that the smokers of the corps will grow fond of pipes. Neither cigarettes nor cigars are to be sold at the store.

Military Watchdogs.

The military posts at the German naval port of Wilhelmshaven are fitted out with watchdogs. Each sentry has one dog by the leash and lets it loose when suspicious people refuse to stop.

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